

Fairfax County Principles for WMATA Funding

- The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is vital to the transportation network and economic growth of Northern Virginia and the Commonwealth, and sufficient state support is needed to address state of good repair and help accommodate additional growth in Fairfax County and Northern Virginia.
- Fairfax County strongly supports the identification and enactment of long-term, dedicated, bondable, reliable, and sustainable funding to support WMATA's capital funding requirements.
- In addition to addressing WMATA capital needs, the County supports NVTC's Principles for WMATA Reform, pertaining to WMATA's governance and operations, adopted in September 2017.
- The enactment of additional Virginia funding must be contingent on the provision of additional funding from the District of Columbia and Maryland.
- It is essential that a WMATA funding plan not jeopardize the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's (NVTA) existing authorities, creditworthiness, credibility or bond validation.
- It is also essential that a funding plan not trigger the "kill switch" that would dissolve the Northern Virginia regional revenue sources enacted by the 2013 General Assembly.
- The Commonwealth's funding for WMATA must include a substantial statewide component, in order to avoid dramatically increasing the funding burden on Northern Virginia taxpayers, who already provide extensive funding for transportation projects and services, including WMATA.
- Any local transportation sources redirected to WMATA funding needs should be accompanied by legislative authority to replace such revenues, as Northern Virginia's transportation funding needs continue to grow.
- A transit funding plan should address the needs of both WMATA and the Virginia Railway Express (VRE), which also provides essential transit services in Northern Virginia.